Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-1005

April 30, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L DeLauro Chairwoman House Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$150,000.00 in funding for the "Small Business Accelerator Program in the Atlanta Area" in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Urban League of Greater Atlanta, Inc., located at 230 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 2600 in Atlanta, GA 30303. The project location where funds will be used is located at 774 Jordan Lane, Building 4, in Decatur, GA 30033.

The funding will be used to support the Small Business Accelerator Program at the Urban League of Greater Atlanta (ULGA). The mission of the Entrepreneurship Center (TEC) is to support and promote the growth of new and existing small businesses, especially those that are women, Black, and minority owned. This project will also focus on those businesses most negatively impacted by COVID. The purpose of the program is to ensure participants can demonstrate increased value in their businesses as measured by the improvement of quantitative and qualitative metrics that signify growth.

This is a good use of taxpayer dollars because the program works to provide support services to startup entrepreneurs, the emerging (3+ years) businesses, and other small businesses to allow these businesses to create and retain jobs in the area. For over 16 years the ULGA has assisted over 10,000 small business clients. Small businesses have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and would greatly benefit from the technical assistance and support offered by ULGA through The Entrepreneurship Center (TEC) and its resources.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Nikema Williams Member of Congress